GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:409
ANSWERED ON:20.11.2007
RELEASE OF LIFE CONVICTS
Bishnoi Shri Kuldeep

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has issued any guidelines for the release of life convicts after completion of 14 years sentence;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for releasing these life convicts languishing in jails across the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO H. GAVIT)

(a) & (b): No, Sir. "Prisons" is a State subject under List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. Moreover, Section 433 A of Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (Cr. P.C.) itself permits the release of prisoners after completion of 14 years of their sentence.

(c): The Government of India has circulated to all State Governments a Model Prison Manual which prescribes that Sentence Review Boards be set up for recommending premature release of prisoners in appropriate cases. In the list of categories of prisoners, release of life convicts is also included.